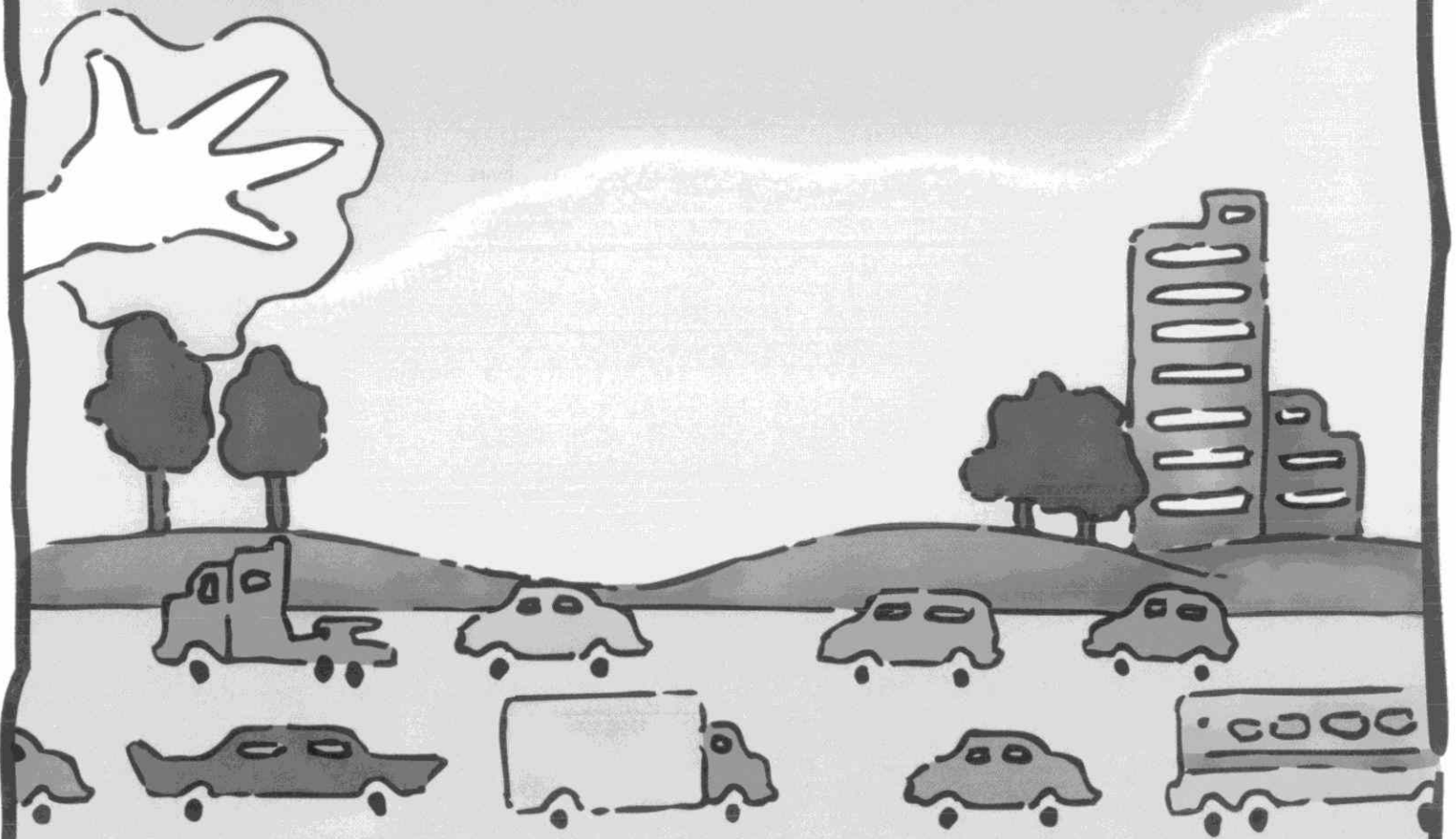


We're all on the road to cleaner air



For the air we breathe.

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WHERE:

Drive Clean targets areas with the worst pollution

Southern Ontario has a smog problem. Vehicles are a major source of smog-causing pollutants. We began Drive Clean in the Greater Toronto Area and the Hamilton-Wentworth Region in April of this year, where the concentrations of people and vehicles are the greatest.

The program will be expanded in 2001 and extend from Peterborough to Windsor. And, this summer, we will institute emissions testing for heavy-duty diesel trucks and buses on a province-wide basis because they travel extensively on the major highways through our urban centres.



WHY:

Reduced smog means improved health

There is no single solution or "quick fix" for air quality. But we must take action on many fronts today so that we can reap the benefits of improved air quality tomorrow.

Our air is suffering from a variety of pollution sources. In fact, about 50 per cent, comes from the United States. But vehicles represent the biggest local source of smog-causing pollutants and cleaning up their emissions is something that we can – and must – do locally.

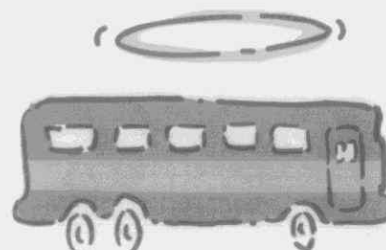
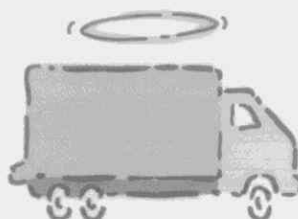
Reduced smog levels will ease eye irritation and breathing difficulties on high-smog days. The impact will be even more dramatic for those with respiratory problems. And the program can help today's children avoid tomorrow's health problems.

Smog's chemical components also harm vegetation and wildlife, corrode materials and damage property. Many agricultural crops suffer reduced yields due to smog.

The Asthma Society of Canada says:

"The main outdoor irritant for people with asthma is air pollution in the form of respirable particles, ground-level ozone and sulphur dioxide. It can affect a person with asthma in two ways."

"First, it can quickly irritate the airways of the lungs, causing asthma symptoms immediately. Secondly, it can slowly increase the inflammation in the airways, which can lead to asthma symptom hours and days into the future."





WHEN:

We're on the road to cleaner air

The impact of Drive Clean will grow with the program. As it expands and proceeds through each two-year cycle of testing, the number of polluting vehicles will be reduced. And smog levels will fall, to the benefit of all of us.

In fact, by the time that Drive Clean is fully implemented and operational, we will have reduced smog-causing pollutants from vehicle emissions by 22 per cent.

Of the five million vehicles in the Drive Clean program area, one million are estimated to have emissions systems

problems. Since emissions testing is mandatory, Drive Clean will identify these polluting vehicles.

Modern technology is giving us cleaner cars that emit less pollution but it will take time to replace the vehicles currently on our roads. Even the best technology can fail unless people are encouraged to maintain aging cars.

The gains from technology can also be offset by increases in the number of cars, which means more kilometres are driven, more gasoline is burned, and more emissions are released into the air.

Ministry of the Environment research data indicates:

Motor vehicles are the largest single domestic source of two of the most serious contributors to smog: nitrogen oxides (NOx) and volatile organic compounds (VOCs). Cars, trucks and buses produce 40 per cent of the nitrogen oxides and 26 per cent of the volatile organic compounds, or an average of 33 per cent. These chemicals combine in heat and sunlight to form ground-level ozone.

The Ontario Medical Association's 'Ground Level Ozone Position Paper' states that:

"Children are most at risk from exposure to (ground-level) ozone because they are active outside during the summertime when ozone levels are at their highest."

It also says:

"The elderly and those with cardiac or respiratory diseases such as asthma, emphysema and chronic bronchitis are the most sensitive to the effects of smog."

Milestones

January 1999

Light-duty vehicle testing begins in the postal code areas centred in the Greater Toronto Area and the Hamilton-Wentworth Region.

April 1999

Test and repair mandatory for vehicle licence renewal and ownership transfer in the program area.

Ontario's Smog Patrol is strengthened to stop the worst-polluting vehicles (with visible emissions) on our highways.

Summer 1999

Emissions testing is to begin for heavy-duty vehicles — trucks and buses. A pass will be required for registration renewals.

October 2000

Light-duty vehicle testing stations open in 13 new areas, from Peterborough to Windsor.

January 2001

Emissions tests and repairs become mandatory in the 13 new areas.





We're all involved in Driving Clean

You need only to look at the yellowish haze that hangs over our towns, cities and highways on hot summer days to appreciate the need for Ontario's Drive Clean.

Ontario's smog problem is due in large measure to exhaust emissions from cars, trucks and buses. It is a particular problem in congested areas of Southern Ontario and affects all of us who live and work there.

That's why we are implementing the Drive Clean program across Southern Ontario, beginning with the Greater Toronto Area (GTA) and Hamilton-Wentworth Region this year. And we are also adding heavy-duty trucks and buses to the program on a province-wide basis this summer.

Drive Clean will improve the quality of the air we breathe by reducing the smog-causing pollutants from vehicle emissions. It will benefit all of us, whether we see smog as a minor irritant or recognize it as a major health risk for children, the elderly and those with respiratory and breathing problems.

Vehicle owners will have the chance to make a positive contribution to the air we all breathe. Well-maintained vehicles will benefit their owners, through improved fuel economy, longer vehicle life and reduced repair costs.



A test every two years improves the air we breathe

Drive Clean requires that light-duty vehicles be tested every two years for emissions problems. They must pass the test in order to have their registrations renewed. If the vehicle fails the test, it must be repaired and re-tested.

We are also requiring all re-sale vehicles in the program to pass an emissions test before ownership can be transferred and the vehicle licensed for the road.

Emissions testing programs are currently in place in nearly 40 jurisdictions in North America. But Ontario's will be one of the most comprehensive, since it will also include re-sale vehicles and heavy-duty trucks and buses.





HOW:

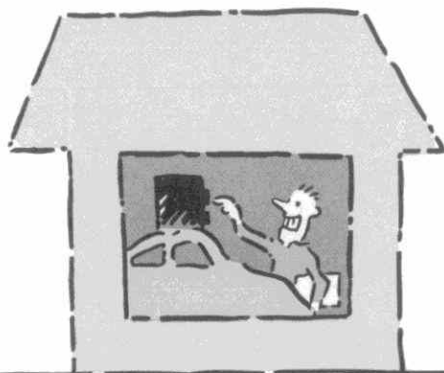
There's a convenient network of facilities

Ontario's Drive Clean is working with private-sector garages to ensure that the program is convenient. There is a widespread and growing network of facilities for tests and repairs, so it's likely that there is one in the area where you live or work.

You will be notified of the need to take your Drive Clean test about 90 days before your registration must be renewed (your birthday) to allow ample time to arrange an emissions test. A pass report from an emissions test is good for six months.

The number of Drive Clean facilities is growing daily, but they are busy as more and more motorists receive notices that their vehicles must be tested. That's why we advise you to book an appointment as soon as possible, to avoid delays and long lineups.

**Call 1-888-758-2999 or visit
www.driveclean.com to locate
a Drive Clean facility near you.**



Ontario's Drive Clean is fair, affordable and convenient.

- Accredited Drive Clean facilities meet rigorous standards for performance and staff training. Only approved, tamper-proof testing equipment is used.
- All facilities are monitored and inspected. Facilities are linked to a central computer that contains the emissions data and records every test and repair.
- Emission standards are based on federal standards for the make, model and year of the vehicle, with an allowance for wear and tear.
- If your vehicle fails its first emission test, you only have to spend up to \$200 on emissions-related repairs to receive a one-time-only "conditional" pass. (A "conditional" pass does not apply to a re-sale vehicle).
- There is a dispute resolution process, if you have serious concerns about your test result or repairs.
- You can have repairs performed wherever you want. (The \$200 "cap" and dispute resolution process only apply if you deal with accredited Drive Clean facilities.)
- There will be zero tolerance for fraud. It is our commitment that the highest standards for customer service are strictly enforced at each Drive Clean facility.

Do you require an emissions test this year?

If your vehicle is registered in the Greater Toronto Area or Hamilton-Wentworth Region, as of April 1, 1999, it may have to pass a Drive Clean emissions test in order to:

- Renew its licence plate sticker
- License it for resale

This applies to:

- A light-duty vehicle – car, van, truck or sport utility vehicle – less than 4,500 kg registered gross weight
- All motor homes with no weight limit

Registration renewal:

- Applies to vehicles more than 3 but less than 20 model years old
- Tests are required every 2 years
Even model years (i.e., 1980, 1982, etc.) are tested in 1999. Odd model years (i.e., 1981, 1983, etc. are tested in 2000)

Re-sale vehicles:

- Applies to ALL vehicles being resold that are less than 20 model years old (i.e., in 1999, that means all vehicles that are 1980 to 1999 models)
- There are no even-year, odd-year provisions as with registration renewals

Is your vehicle ready for its Drive Clean test?

We've developed a list of pre-conditions to help guide emissions inspectors in deciding if a vehicle should be tested.

The pre-conditions include: tires in good shape; no visible smoke; a complete exhaust system; no missing catalytic convertor; no dripping fluids; no visible fuel leaks. Our goal is to protect your vehicle, the test equipment, the safety of Drive Clean facility personnel and the integrity of the test itself.

If you believe that a Drive Clean facility is trying to take advantage of you by requiring

extensive repairs before a test, we want to hear about it. Your concerns will be investigated, because there is zero tolerance for fraud or abuse of vehicle owners in Drive Clean. Report your concerns to 1-888-758-2999.



 Ontario

For more information call:

1-888-758-2999

www.driveclean.com



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